

# Avila Examiner

Volume 5, No. 11

Avila College Kansas City Missouri

March 26, 1981



Paul Burns, Ronnie Culver and Teresa Fischer rehearse for the musical, "The Fantasticks."

## Musical creates funny love story; 'The Fantasticks' opens April 3

**THE FANTASTICKS**, which open at the Goppert Theatre on Friday, April 3, 8:00 PM, has been called, "A tenderly funny love story", a "comic delight filled with whipped cream hiding a fantasy of life."

But what is this musical that is now in its 21st year in New York? What can we expect to see during the performance?

To answer these questions and more, we caught up with three of the cast members during a break in their rehearsals. **Ronnie Culver**, who plays "El Gallo", **Teresa Fischer**, who is one of the young lovers, "Luisa", and **Paul Burns**, who plays one of the meddling fathers, "hucklebee", talked about the musical and their individual roles.

**Avila:** Why do you feel that **THE FANTASTICKS** has lasted for 21 years on Broadway?

**Teresa:** I suppose as long as

there are people who fall in love, or are in love, or remember love, **THE FANTASTICKS** is going to be around.

**Paul:** And as long as there are parents who meddle, or forget that they, too, went through the highs and lows of young love, we're going to be doing this musical.

**Avila:** If that is true, then how does the character of "El Gallo" fit in, as he is neither parent or young lover.

**Ronnie:** Actually, he is a romantic cynic. A fascinating character.

**Avila:** How so?

**Ronnie:** In a sense he has seen it all. He has, long ago, gone through the same things that the young lovers, "Matt" and "Luisa" have gone through. He remembers, unlike the parents, and he senses the bittersweetness that only the passion of young love can bring. Maybe at times

there is a longing on his part to return to his 'younger years', but he knows that the flash and brilliance of first love is always tempered with rain.

**Avila:** Rain?

**Ronnie:** Actually that refers to **Continued on page 2**

## Commencement festivities begin with barbecue picnic

By Dennis Kaufman

Commencement weekend begins Friday night May 8th, with a barbecue picnic for the graduates and their families.

The Honors Convocation will be held on Saturday morning May 9 at 10:30 in the Mabee Fieldhouse. Dean L.F. Cupkie will preside. At this time the various departments will give out outstanding achievement awards to deserving students.

ving students.

A graduate nurse pine ceremony will occur, as well as, the awarding of the Medical Technology pins. To be announced at the convocation, will be the recipient of the Avila Medal of Honor which will be presented by Sister Olive Louise Dallavis.

Those who attend will also find out who is to receive the Ariston Award. This honor is awarded to the senior who has

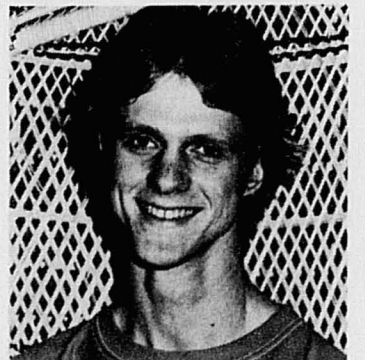
displayed outstanding leadership, worked on several campus and community events, and is not based on academic achievement and is voted on by the graduating seniors who will receive a bachelors degree at Avila.

Approximately 350 Avila students will obtain their degrees at the commencement exercise on May 9 at 6:00 pm in the Mabee Fieldhouse.

## Elections fill leadership slots

**Donna Bahara** and **Charles Suellentrop** were elected chairpersons of SGA and SUB, respectively, in the ALL Campus Spring Election March 16-18.

In noncontested races eight students earned positions on SGA: **Mrge Kuhn**, Secretary; **Dana Bopp** and **Helen Thibault**, Education Senators; **Joanne Langan**, Nursing Senator; **Rob Brown** and **Margaret Ortmann**, Performing and Visual Arts Senators; and, **Jennifer Perkins** and **Margie Williamson**, Social Sciences Senators.



**Charlie Suellentrop, SUB Chairperson**

**Beverly McDaniel** and **Patrick M. Roche** were elected to the Student Activity Fee Board.

Thirteen percent of the Avila student body participated in the three days and evenings of voting. Over twenty-five percent of the full-time students voted and less than three percent of the part-time students voted.

The Election Committee recommended to the SGA Student Council and to Dean Cupkie that the election be accepted as valid and the results be announced.

Members of the Student Council met Friday, March 20, and voted to accept the Election Committee's recommendation. Dean Cupkie, also accepted the recommendation.

Election results were announced Friday morning.



**Donna Bahara, SGA Chairperson**

**Jane Twyman** was named SUB Vice Chairperson for Planning and Development and **Jennifer McKenna** was elected to SUB Vice Chairperson for Finance and Communication.

## Lecture series sponsors Kassebaum

By Dawnn Wimes.

Senator Nancy Landon Kassebaum of Kansas, will speak at Avila College, Friday evening, April 24 at 8 p.m. in Goppert Theatre. Mrs. Kassebaum's presentation is part of the Truman Lecture Series that features various distinguished speakers.

Senator Kassebaum is the first woman to represent Kansas in the U.S. Senate and

is the only woman senator in the 96th Congress. In 1978 she was elected Senator of Kansas defeating a former two-term congressman from her hometown of Topeka. Aside from her senatorial duties, she serves as chairman of the African sub-committee and the Aviation committee. She is an active member of the Budget and the special committee on aging.

Being the daughter of Alfred M. Landon, a former governor of Kansas, the introduction to politics began early for Mrs. Kassebaum. She is a graduate of the University of Kansas, with a B.A. in political science and continued her education receiving a masters degree in diplomatic history from Michigan University.

sity.

Before entering the Senate, Senator Kassebaum served on the Governmental Ethics commission and the Kansas Committee for the Humanities. Afterwards, she worked on the

staff for Senator James B. Pearson, and served as vice-president of KFH-KBRA-FM

stations. She is also the recipient of the Women in Communications Matrix Award and the mother of four children.

Tickets are available at the switchboard in Blasco Hall, but must be obtained in advance. Everyone is welcome to attend, all Avila students, staff, and faculty may attend free.





Donna Bahara expresses her views as Eileen Yerick and Connie Johnston listen during the SGA Chairperson Candidate Debate.

## Debate opportunity provides questions, answers

By Mary Clark

On Thursday March 12, there was a debate between the two candidates running for the position of SGA chairperson. The debate opened with statements from both candidates, Donna Bahara and Connie Johnston.

Donna spoke of the students, the administration, leadership, and the potential of SGA. Connie spoke of her background and experience, and how she could apply these aspects to the position of chairperson of the Student Government Association.

The candidates were asked three questions, the first being that of how to get more student participation in SGA. Connie spoke of contacting

trshman through Freshman Orientation.

Donna spoke of getting respect for SGA, in building its reputation, which would attract students to be involved.

The second question given to the candidates was that of how SGA could be more helpful to the students, concerning its purpose. In answer to the question Donna spoke of making students more aware of SGA's duties, and to make its members more receptive to student needs.

Connie spoke of having an open forum and utilizing certain aspects of communication such as word of mouth, the student newspaper, and the Gredunza to make students

more aware of how they could utilize their Student Government.

The third question dealt with the credibility of SGA. Connie spoke of giving SGA credibility through the unification of other major organizations on campus, pooling together to solve problems. Donna spoke of having SGA prove itself through action, representing the students in dealing with real issues.

The debate brought the two candidates together over issues of concern. It was a challenge to each of the candidates and to each other, to show who was best for the position of SGA chairperson.

## Contest sponsors two divisions; prints due by March 31 deadline

Jennifer McKenna

Picture This, your photograph in the SUB's Photography Contest. All currently enrolled Avila students, except those who earn their livelihood by photography are eligible to enter.

There will be two catagories: Division I will be Black and White and Division II will be Color. Entries must be at least 5"x7" and cannot exceed 14"x16", or 16"x20" matted.

All entries must be matted

and suitable for displaying. Frames may not be used. All entries must have an entry form on the back of each matted photograph.

Entry forms will be available in Deb Volkmer's office or near the display case in Marian Centre. Each student is allowed to submit up to three entries in each catagory.

Entries are to be submitted no later than March 31 to Deb Volkmer, Program coordinator. Awards will be

given to the First, Second, and Third place winners in each Division.

Photographs will be displayed in Marian Centre from March 31 to April 10. Winners will be announced April 2. All award wining photographs will become eligible for the Region II ACU-I Photography Contest in the Fall.

Judging will be done by competent Avila Professors who are in the field of the Arts.

## 'THE FANTASTICKS' CONTINUED

one of the songs in **THE FANTASTICKS**. "Soon It's Gonna Rain" comes just after "Matt" and "Lusia" are united for the first time.

Teresa: I've always felt that the song was like a waiting time. Now that they've accepted their love, they're waiting for something to happen that will match the initial fire of their discovery of each other.

Avila: Then the musical is really dramatic?

Paul: No, not really. In the midst of this song the audience is smiling because they know what is going to happen. They remember that that is the way of love. Only the lovers don't know.

Avila: Have there been any problems or objections to the rape scene?

Paul: WHAT RAPE SCENE?

Avila: The scene when "Lusia" is dragged...

Paul: No, when I said that I was just using the same li e that the fathes use in the play.

Teresa: It is really difficult to describe the scene.

Avila: Why is that?

Teresa: Well, remember that this is a musical and not something heavy. And the

way that the director, Richard Pond, has staged it is within the comic meaning of the play.

Ronnie: I really think that the audience will have to make up their own minds about it.

Teresa: I agree with RONNIE. To use an old saying, "You'll just have to see it to believe it."

Avila: It seems that **THE FANTASTICKS** has some deeper meanings than just what's on the surface?

Paul: Only if you want it to. By that, I mean each person can see and hear what they want to within the play.

Ronnie: Agreed. The comedy is main idea, to laugh and to enjoy what is going on.

Teresa: If you want to see something deeper, then it will be because each person has experienced different things about their first love, each person remembers something different. But, it seems everybody remembers falling in love for the first time.

Ronnie: For me, the only deep moment comes very briefly.

Avila: How is that?

Ronnie: Just after "Matt" runs off to seek his life and

fortune in the cold cruel world with the "Old Actor" and his sidekick, "Mortimer" I have to explain to "Lusia" that he will come back, but she is naturally impatient—and for just one brief moment I look at her, see her vulnerability, and consider the possibility of returning to long ago when I, too, was a 'romantic' kid. But it is not the way things are suppose to be, and I quickly return to comedy and laugh it all off.

Teresa: Yes, for me that is the most touching moment in the play. But that too is played for laughs.

Avila: Then we can expect that **THE FANTASTICKS** will give us something to laugh with, and to enjoy?

Paul: No question about it. We are all working at that very idea. Enjoy, laugh, and be entertained.

Teresa: Sorry, you'll have to excuse us; Kim Jeffers, the stage manager has just called time and we've got to go back to rehearsal.

Avila: Thank you for taking time to give us your insights and comments on the play.

## Letter to the editor

To the editor:

Have you ever placed your books out on the book rack just around the corner from the cafeteria and upon returning found them missing? Many of us do this daily, but have not been the unfortunate victim. For those who have already been affected, this needs no further emphasis.

Speaking as one who has been the victim of this "rip-off", I do recall hearing my friends mention that book stealing occurs more heavily at the beginning and the end of each semester. However, my book was taken during mid-terms. There are a couple of motives for this:

- 1) some people prefer to take texts rather than purchasing tem
  - 2) Some people steal books in order to sell them to the book store for cash.
- The alternatives to this situation that exists are:
- 1) Keeping your books with you.
  - 2) Accepting the probability of a "rip-off."

Anita Jurgensmeyer

## Discussion open for Greek system

How would you like to share in examining the idea of fraternities and sororities at Avila?

An all-campus interest meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 6:30 p.m. in the Barefoot Room and is open to all students, faculty and staff.

This preliminary meeting is the beginning of a process to examine the issue of whether fraternities and sororities are desired by the Avila community.

No decision has been made or will be until a complete viewpoint is reached.

Gary Forney and Sally Beck, both with professional Greek system experience, will share their thoughts and expectations.

The Office of Student Life hopes the whole campus will take an active interest and share their ideas and thoughts concerning this issue.

If interested, but cannot attend the meeting, please call the Office of Student Life, 942-8400 ext. 260.

## The Staff

The Avila Examiner is published bi-monthly during the regular college year with exception of college vacation periods by Avila College for the general student body, faculty, administration, and staff.

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For more information, please contact:

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 Letters to the Editors are always welcome.



# Medical Center offers test

By Ramon Loyd

Could you have a heart attack? Heart disease is the number one killer in America. The University of Kansas Medical Center is offering a free blood test as a community service.

The blood test will detect levels of cholesterol "fractions" in the blood; of which high levels have been known to cause cardiovascular disease.

Susan DeCoursey, an R.N. at the Lipid-Arteriosclerosis Prevention Clinic, feels the free service should be taken by those persons who qualify.

"It's extremely important that people take advantage of this service", Susan DeCoursey said. "Especially if they or members of their family have had a history of heart disease. I feel it's just as important as having your blood pressure

taken."

Susan DeCoursey also felt that younger people may be less interested in taking the blood test. In her opinion, they tend not to think about themselves as ever having any heart disease. Susan emphasized that it is equally important for young as well as older persons to have the blood test.

Persons interested will qualify if they are: between the ages of 18 and 65; within 15% of their ideal body weight; on no medications for a chronic condition; non-smokers; and not diabetic.

If you meet these qualifications and are interested you can pick up one of the questionnaires sent out by the K.U. Medical Center or write for one at: Lipid-Arteriosclerosis Prevention Clinic, 449

Sudler, University of Kansas Medical Center, 39th & Rainbow, Kansas City, Kansas 66103. Remember to include your name, address and telephone.

An appointment will be arranged and the blood test will take about an hour. The results of your test are confidential and will take from two to three weeks to process.

The results you receive will contain the amounts of high density and low density lipoproteins. A ratio is obtained by dividing the LDL by HDL cholesterol levels. The higher the number obtained from the cholesterol levels, the greater the risk of coronary attacks.

There is no obligation after taking the test. If medical treatment is needed, you can be treated by your personal physician or the Prevention Clinic.



Mary Beth Walker won the Residence Hall "Best Baby Picture" Contest. This baby picture earned Mary Beth ten dollars.

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## Announcement

Applications are now available for Student Union-Board committee chairperson positions and the Avial Examiner staff positions. The applications are available in Deborah Volkmer's office in the front of Marian Centre. Apply now.

## Faculty present views

By Karen Wilson

The Last Lecture Series, recently held in the residence halls, offered students an opportunity to hear some of their favorite instructors express their views on self-image, marriage and life.

The instructors, chosen by resident students, included Gerry Miller, Dave Wissmann and Edward Donovan.

Miller lectured on the importance of a positive self image. The topic reflected a concern of most young people today. Therefore, the lecture was well-focused and well-received by the students.

Wissmann's lecture raised the question, "Does marriage have a future?" He explored

the various alternatives to marriage that men and women

may now choose from, and expressed his own opinion. The lecture went well and students posed interesting questions on how society will view marriage in the future.

Donovan the last of the "last lecturers" gave a statement on living live. HE presented his philosophy in seven points which ranged from sharpening mental skills to keeping an open mind.

Donovan added to the lecture with stories of his past experiences. It was an enjoyable lecture that prompted students to examine their own attitudes toward life.

Overall, the series was a success. Both students and instructors enjoyed the lectures and the opportunity to meet in a more relaxed atmosphere.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JOYCE MOORE!

C.J.

I take this opportunity to thank all of the people who supported me in my campaign efforts for 1981-82 SGA Chairperson. Your support was most appreciated. Thank you.

Connie Johnston

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## MAD/CO to perform

By Dawnn Wimes

Has entertainment been absent from your busy schedule lately? Why not spend an evening watching the exhilarating dance performance of the Mid America Dance Company, a modern dance group, appearing in Goppert Theatre April 25, at 8 p.m.

The dance company (MAD/CO) was founded in 1976 by Ross Winter and Alaine Wiltz, artistic directors for the group. The group is comprised of eight dancers, who perform together to create an expressionistic and diversi-

fied dance style all their own. Because of the versatility and affluency of the dancers' background as teachers and performers, the company provides other dance services in addition to their concert performances.

The dance company is partially funded by the Missouri Arts Council, and hosted by the Office for Student Life and the Department of Performing and Visual Arts. Tickets are available free for all Avila staff, students and faculty.

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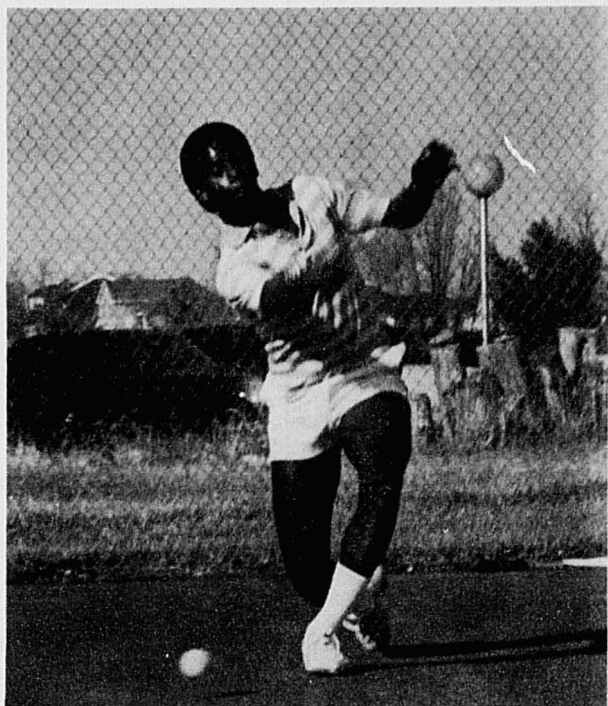
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ALL TIED UP—Mike Woods unleashes his unique hitting style on an unsuspecting tennis ball.

## Tennis heeds spring's call

By Mark Johnson

Tennis, like young lovers, budding trees, and blooming flowers is a rite of spring.

During the winter months tennis players subsist within the confines of giant cocoons called indoor tennis courts. With the first ray of sunshine and breath of warm air the call to sally forth and do battle under the sun is sounded.

Avila's tennis squads have heard the call and are preparing for the upcoming season which opens against Johnson County Community College, an old adversary rich in talent.

The old adage practice makes perfect might be the best way to sum up this years

men's team. As one player described it, "the raw talent is there, they just need the time to shape and mold it."

Returning from last years squad are Clarence Robinson, John Higgins, and Terry Ficke. New to the squad are Doug Pearson, John O'Flaherty, Tony Angelo, and Mike Woods, a transfer from Johnson County.

The key to this years women's team seems to be balance. Many of the players

are closely matched in skills this year and that gives the lineup a strong composition throughout.

Five players return from last year. They are Sue Thomas, Kathy Curtin, Nancy Kopp, Sue Comford, and Christine Ojile. Newcomers are Jane Twyman, Beth Cini and Tere Colegrio.

How well the two squads will fare this year remains to be seen. Several players though are looking forward to a winning season.

## Sue Thomas ALL SEASON ATHLETE

By Mark Johnson

Susan Thomas is an athlete for all seasons. She can be found skiing cross-country, in the Rockies, teeing off at the local golf course, and playing tennis on the Avila courts.

Recently she added downhill skiing to her list of athletic adventures.

Her competitive tennis career has spanned six years. She played her high school tennis at nearby Center.

For the past three years she has played doubles in the Kansas City Open tournament. She fared best last year when she reached the semi-final round.

Susan feels her serve and her forehand are the strongest parts of her game. This shows in her aggressive style of play. At times though she will play a slower baseline game when her opponent warrants it.

She came to Avila because of its proximity to home. Marketing is her major and she holds a 3.0 grade point average at this time.

In addition to the many sports she plays she enjoys photography in her spare time.

Even though college level tennis isn't a spectator sport Susan likes to have people watch the teams matches for the support.

What are her hopes for the season? To have a winning season and improve over last year.



Sue Thomas

## Cagey veteran uses "smarts" to outdo flashier opponents

BY MARK JOHNSON

Cagey old veteran.

The term conjures up memories of late inning pinch hitters and football players named Blanda. They are an elite group that knows how to win with "smarts" and experience over speed and power.

Avila's men's tennis team has a cagey veteran of their very own this year. His name is Clarence Robinson.

Clarence is the first to admit that he isn't the fastest or the most skilled player on the team. This hasn't kept him from becoming one of the top players of this year's squad.

His success lies in his ability to outsmart his opponents with unexpected shots. Among his favorite unexpected shots are the down-the-line and alley shots when he's

playing doubles. For players grooved in cross court play these can be devastating.



Clarence Robinson

Another big factor in his success has to be his mental approach to the game, which is just to enjoy it. It's not complicated but it sure seems to work. As Clarence says, "I just can't get into it and enjoy it when it's a lot of work and taken too seriously."

A backboard at a local park was his first playing partner. From there he went on to play competitive tennis at Manual High in Kansas City.

During his spare time he works at his favorite hobby, which is photography. He also works as a photography assistant in the art department at Avila.

His plans after he graduates are still up in the air at this point. Until then he will keep on playing the role of the cagey veteran.

## From the Bench

## Living another's dream

BY MARK JOHNSON

Children dream.

Some dream of hitting a grand slam in the bottom of the ninth. Others dream of throwing the winning touchdown pass. Still others just hope to make it to the big leagues.

The problem comes when these children grow up and become parents.

Most parents have sense enough to let their children have their own dreams and dance on their own clouds. Those that don't cause the majority of the problems.

The species can be found in numerous domains. The most common being the field of athletic endeavor, where little Johnnie or Susie are playing.

There they pull for Johnnie to pitch that no-hitter that they never could. Or they are

pulling for Susie to be the top gymnast in her class.

When Johnnie and Susie don't achieve the goals set forth for them they see the tag of loser looming very large in front of them and their children.

It doesn't stop with Johnnie and Susie. The empty hopes and long gone dreams are carried on through the years of John and Susan.

"Winning at any cost" is a motto that spins a web of defeatism throughout the lives of those involved.

Unfortunately it spreads into other areas of those people's lives. Before long they have forgotten how to laugh. They have forgotten how to play. They have forgotten that dreams are to be shared by each other but not to be lived by another.

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